

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the quick and courteous non-final Action. The Applicants are particularly appreciative of the allowance of claims 15-21.

Claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-21 are present in the application.

Claims 1-13 were rejected.

Claims 4 and 14 have been canceled.

Election of Species

The Examiner acknowledged Applicants' election. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been correctly treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph, Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner notes that it is unclear how claim 4 further limits claim 1 from which it depends, and further states that it is unclear what other than a "vessel or tank" could be used as the housing.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 1-3 and 5-13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a "vessel or tank," does not reasonably provide enablement for other housings that are intended to be covered by claim 1 et al.

The Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the fact that dependent claim 4 has been canceled. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection with respect to this claim is rendered moot.

Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection with respect to claims 1-3 and 5-13 is overcome, particularly in view of the fact that dependent

claim 4, which is the source of the inadvertent confusion, has been canceled. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Examiner notes that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the components corresponding to the limitations of claim 13 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Dependent claim 13 relates to means provided for using AC or DC current, or magnetic force to re-enforce or neutralise a given Zeta potential on either contaminants, media, or fluid being filtered. Please also see page 3, lines 33-35. The Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the enclosed Replacement Sheet where such means has been added to FIG. 4, given the new reference number 60. The addition of this means to FIG. 4 does not constitute improper insertion of new matter since it is described in page 3, lines 33-35 and claim 13 of the application as filed.

Further, page 3, lines 33-35 have been amended to recite "means 60" so that the reference numeral is in an appropriate place in the specification. The Applicants thus respectfully submit that these changes overcome the drawing objection. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

There being no art rejections, the Applicants are hopeful that with the resolution of the above-noted issues, the claims are allowable. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, the Examiner kindly noted that the Applicants are entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments presented above place the application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. The Examiner is

respectfully reminded of his continuing duty to indicate allowable subject matter. The Examiner is also invited to call the Applicants' attorney at the number below for any reason, especially any reason that may help advance the prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
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